

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01835 181642Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----190926Z 112912 /10

R 181620Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2281
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 1835

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR SY US IS
SUBJECT: RIFAI'S COMMENTS ABOUT KHADDAM'S UNHAPPINESS WITH
USG POSITION

REF: A. AMMAN 1547 B. DAMASCUS 1682

1. IT IS DISTURBING THAT KHADDAM APPARENTLY AS OF MARCH 16
STILL HAD PROBLEM UNDERSTANDING PRESIDENT'S MARCH 9 CONFERENCE,
BUT I BELIEVE THIS MAY REFLECT AS MUCH HIS DISMAY AT
THE PRESIDENT'S AIRING OF THE TOPICS IN A PRESS CONFERENCE
SETTING AS IT DOES WITH THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PRESIDENT'S
COMMENTS THEMSELVES.

2. AS NOTED DAMASCUS REFTEL, KHADDAM WAS RATTLED BY PRESI-
DENT'S MARCH 7 REFERENCE TO "DEFENSIBLE BORDERS" AND LATER
BY MARCH 9 PRESS CONFERENCE. HE IS NOT ALONE IN THIS.
PRESIDENT'S PRESS SECRETARY ASAD ELIAS MENTIONED TO AMBASSA-
DOR IN MARCH 18 MEETING HIS DISMAY AT REFERENCE TO "DEFENSIBLE
ORDERS." HOWEVER, PRESIDENT'S PRIVATE SECRETARY DABOUL WHO
ALSO PRESENT, TOLD ELIAS HE SHOULD WEIGH ALL OF PRESIDENT
CARTER'S RECENT STATEMENTS. DABOUL ASSERTED HE FOUND THE
PRESIDENT'S MARCH 16 REFERENCE TO A "HOMELAND FOR PALESTINIAN
REFUGEES" HIGHLY POSITIVE AND SIGNIFICANT.

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3. RE PARA 4 AMMAN REFTEL, I WILL TAKE SOUNDING WITH
KHADDAM ABOUT POSSIBLE MEDICAL CHECKUP WHEN IN WASHINGTON.

HE RECENTLY TOLD ME HE IS OUT OF PAIN AND DOING SOME
MINOR PHYSIOTHERAPY TO REGAIN TONE IN HIS HAND MUSCLES.
IF I FIND HIM INTERESTED IN A CHECKUP, I WILL RECOMMEND WE

ARRANGE ONE FOR HIM AT WALTER REED WHERE ASAD'S BROTHER-
IN-LAW WAS EXAMINED LAST DECEMBER.
MURPHY

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, BOUNDARY DETERMINATION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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From: DAMASCUS
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PBOR, SY, US, IS, JO, XF, (KHADDAM, ABD AL-HALIM), (CARTER, JIMMY), (RIFAI, ZAYD)
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